Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ACDA-12 MCE-00 EB-08 SMS-01 /071 W

R 211224Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6891

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL KRAKOW POUCH

/AMCONSUL LENINGRAD 0386

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN POUCH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USNATO

DIA WASHDC

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EMBASSY MOSCOW - PLEASE PASS KIEV ADVANCE PARTY

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD EIND EAIR EALR PL UR

SUBJ: GIEREK'S VISIT TO AIRCRAFT PLANT IN KIEV

1. SOVIET PLANS TO MAKE USE OF POLAND'S AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY RECEIVED FURTHER EMPHASIS RECENTLY DURING GIEREK'S AUGUST 15 VISIT TO KIEV, ON HIS WAY BACK TO WARSAW FROM A CRIMEAN VACATION. THE HIGHLIGHT OF HIS VISIT, ACCORDING TO POLISH MEDIA, WAS A TOUR OF AN AIRCRAFT PLANT NEAR KIEV -- FULL NAME: FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER -- AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OBSERVATION OF TEST FLIGHTS OF THE AN-28 AIRCRAFT WHICH POLAND'S PZL AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY IS NOW PREPARING TO MANUFACTURE.

2. ALL WARSAW NEWSPAPERS AUG. 16TH FRONTPAGED ARTICLES ON GIEREK TOURING THE AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION LINES, TALKING WITH WORKERS AND MEETING WITH SOVIET DESIGNER OLEG ANTONOV TO DISCUSS THE MANY MERITS OF THE AN-28.

ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, PRODUCTION OF THE AN-28, WHICH IS POWERED BY TWO GAS TURBINE ENGINES, WILL REPLACE PRODUCTION OF THE AN-2 AIRCRAFT WHICH PZL HAS BEEN PRODCING FOR THE PAST 17 YEARS. GIEREK MADE THE USUAL TESTIMONIALS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF POLISH-SOVIET ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ALTHOUGH THIS TIME IN A UKRANIAN CONTEXT.

3. GIEREK ALSO WITNESSED TEST FLIGHTS OF THE AN-28, ACCORDING TO TRYBUNA LUDU, BUT WE NOTE THAT PRAVDA FOR AUG. 16 ALSO MENTIONS TEST FLIGHTS OF TWO LARGER ANTONOV AIRCRAFT, THE AN-32 AND AN-72. FILMS OF GIEREK WATCHING FLIGHTS OF ALL THREE AIRCRAFT WERE SHOWN ON WARSAW TV ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST 17 BUT NO MENTION OF THE AN-32 OR AN-72 HAS YET APPEARED IN THE POLISH PRESS.

SCHAUFELE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: AIRCRAFT, MINISTERIAL VISITS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS

Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978WARSAW07263
Document Source: DOCUMENT OF THE PROPERTY O

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** Film Number: D780341-0916

Format: TEL From: WARSAW

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780840/aaaabhdv.tel

Line Count: 78 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 140cdd5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 27 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1670861 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: GIEREK\'S VISIT TO AIRCRAFT PLANT IN KIEV

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, EAIR, EALR, PL, UR

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/140cdd5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014